difficult to estimate the enemy's numbers, and as a rule, one is apt instinctively to exaggerate the number. But if one is foolish enough to accept an inflated estimate of the enemy's forces, then every cavalry colonel on reconnaissance espies an army, and every captain of light infantry battalions. Again I repeat that in war morale and opinion are half the battle. The art of the great captain has always been to make his troops appear very numerous to the enemy, and the enemy's very few to his own. So that to-day, in spite of the long time we have spent in Germany, the enemy do not know my real strength. We are constantly striving to magnify our numbers. Far from confessing that I had only 100,000 men at Wagram, I am constantly suggesting that I had 220,000. In my Italian campaigns, in which I had only a handful of troops, I always exaggerated my numbers. It served my purpose, and has not lessened my glory. My generals and practised soldiers could always perceive, after the event, all the skilfulness of my operations, even that of having exaggerated the numbers of my troops.

12th. At parade to-day a young man of seventeen, the son of a Lutheran pastor of Erfurt, tried to get near me. Some officers stopped him, and as the boy showed confusion, suspicion was aroused, he was searched, and a dagger was found on him. I have ordered him to be brought before me.

What did you want of me ?
(Staps: To kill you).
What have I done to you? Who made you my judge?
(I wanted to bring the war to an end.)